

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA  
CHARLESTON DIVISION**

<b>IN RE: ETHICON, INC. PELVIC REPAIR SYSTEMS PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION</b>	<b>Master File No. 2:12-MD-02327 MDL 2327</b>  <b>JOSEPH R. GOODWIN U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE</b>
<b>THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO:  WAVE 5 CASES</b>	

**RESPONSES AND OBJECTIONS TO DEFENDANTS' SECOND AMENDNED  
NOTICE OF DEPOSITION OF DR. SCOTT A. GUELCHER**

Plaintiffs hereby respond and object to Defendants' Second Amended Notice of Deposition of Dr. Scott A. Guelcher (the Notice). By making the accompanying responses and these objections to Defendants' requests for production, Plaintiffs do not waive, and hereby expressly reserve, their right to supplement, clarify, revise, or correct any or all of the responses and objections herein, and to assert additional objections or privileges to these objections and responses.

**GENERAL RESPONSES AND OBJECTIONS  
TO THE NOTICE AND REQUESTS TO PRODUCE**

Plaintiffs object to each and every document request contained in Defendants' Notice of Deposition, and further object to the quantity of document requests contained in Defendants' Notice of Deposition. Plaintiffs object to each instruction, definition and document request to the extent that it purports to impose any requirement or discovery obligation greater than or different from those under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the applicable Rules and Orders of the Court. Plaintiffs generally object to each document request that is overly broad or

to the extent that it seeks documents protected from disclosure by the attorney work product doctrine. Should any such disclosure by Plaintiffs occur, it is inadvertent and shall not constitute a waiver of any applicable privilege.

**SPECIFIC RESPONSES AND OBJECTIONS  
TO THE NOTICE AND DOCUMENT REQUESTS**

**Document Request No. 1:** All Documents and Communications (including but not limited to (i) protocols, (ii) interim and final results, (iii) raw data, (iv) supplemental data, (v) reports of adverse events, (vi) informed consents, (vii) investigator brochures, (viii) publications and submissions, (ix) materials and minutes for any study meeting, (x) information regarding specimens and materials, and (xi) communications with co-authors, patients, health authorities, sponsors, investigators, or institutional review boards) relating to A.D. Talley, B.R. Rogers, V. Iakovlev, R.F. Dunn, and S.A. Guelcher, Oxidation and Degradation of Polypropylene Transvaginal Mesh, J. of Biomaterials Sci: Polymer Ed. (2017).

Response: Plaintiffs object to this Request on the grounds that it is overly broad. Plaintiffs also object to this request as being beyond the scope of F.R.C.P. 26. Notwithstanding these objections, a copy of the final version of the requested article will be produced.

**Document Request No. 2:** All Documents and Communications (including but not limited to (i) protocols, (ii) interim and final results, (iii) raw data, (iv) supplemental data, (v) reports of adverse events, (vi) informed consents, (vii) investigator brochures, (viii) publications and submissions, (ix) materials and minutes for any study meeting, (x) information regarding specimens and materials, and (xi) communications with co-authors, patients, health authorities, sponsors, investigators, or institutional review boards) relating to any other study, analysis, test, clinical trial or epidemiological study concerning polypropylene or Prolene in which you

participated in any capacity, including as an investigator, safety monitor, advisor, or study committee member.

**Response:** Plaintiffs object to this Request on the grounds that it is vague and overly broad.

Plaintiffs also object to this request as being beyond the scope of F.R.C.P. 26. Notwithstanding these objections, copies of the final versions of applicable articles will be produced.

**Document Request No. 3:** All Documents and Communications (including but not limited to (i) protocols, (ii) interim and final results, (iii) raw data, (iv) supplemental data, (v) reports of adverse events, (vi) informed consents, (vii) investigator brochures, (viii) publications and submissions, (ix) materials and minutes for any study meeting, (x) information regarding specimens and materials, and (xi) communications with co-authors, patients, health authorities, sponsors, investigators, or institutional review boards) relating to any study, analysis, test, clinical trial or epidemiological study concerning hernia mesh, pelvic mesh, pelvic organ prolapse, or stress urinary incontinence— regardless as to the material from which the mesh was made—in which you participated in any capacity, including as an investigator, safety monitor, advisor, or study committee member.

**Response:** See Response to Request No. 2 above.

**Document Request No. 4:** All Documents and Communications relating to any publications, proposed publications, or draft submissions for publication authored by you relating to polypropylene or Prolene.

**Response:** Plaintiffs object to this Request on the grounds that it is vague and overly broad.

Plaintiffs also object to this request as being beyond the scope of F.R.C.P. 26. Notwithstanding these objections, copies of the final versions of applicable articles will be produced.

**Document Request No. 5:** All Documents and Communications relating to any publications, proposed publications, or draft submissions for publication authored by you relating to pelvic mesh, pelvic organ prolapse, or stress urinary incontinence.

**Response:** Plaintiffs object to this Request on the grounds that it is vague and overly broad. Plaintiffs also object to this request as being beyond the scope of F.R.C.P. 26.

**Document Request No. 6:** All Documents and Communications relating to presentations or lectures given or contributed to by you which concerned polypropylene or Prolene.

**Response:** Plaintiffs object to this Request on the grounds that it is vague and overly broad. Plaintiffs also object to this request as being beyond the scope of F.R.C.P. 26.

**Document Request No. 7:** All Documents and Communications relating to presentations or lectures given or contributed to by you which concerned pelvic mesh, pelvic organ prolapse, or stress urinary incontinence.

**Response:** Plaintiffs object to this Request on the grounds that it is vague and overly broad. Plaintiffs also object to this request as being beyond the scope of F.R.C.P. 26.

**Document Request No. 8:** All Documents, including but not limited to calculations, correspondence, data, calendar entries, notes and other materials, reflecting the compensation to be paid to You for study and testimony in this case.

**Response:** Plaintiffs will produce information relating to the amount of compensation that has been paid to or billed by the witness for work done in this case. Plaintiffs object to this request to the extent that it is over broad and seeks communications between the Plaintiffs' attorneys and this witness as such information is beyond that required by Rule 26(b)(4)(C).

**Document Request No. 9:** All Documents, including but not limited to calculations, correspondence, data, calendar entries, notes and other materials, reflecting the compensation a)

paid to You to date; and b) due to be paid to You once a bill is prepared for Your study and testimony, in connection with providing expert opinions in any pelvic mesh litigation in the last four years, in which You have been submitted a report and/or been disclosed as an expert witness for a plaintiff.

**Response:** Plaintiffs object to this request on the grounds that it is vague and overly broad with respect to “any pelvic mesh litigation” and, therefore, it seeks information related to products other than those at issue in this lawsuit.

**Document Request No. 10:** A copy of an up-to-date Curriculum Vitae.

**Response:** Plaintiffs refer Defendant to the expert witness’s Curriculum Vitae attached to the Rule 26 report.

**Document Request No. 11:** If not included in Your up-to-date Curriculum Vitae, a complete list of Your publications, including but not limited to treatises, articles, journals, editorials, texts, abstracts, CLE or CME materials, PowerPoints, and seminar materials.

**Response:** Plaintiffs object to said request as being outside the scope of discovery required to be produced under Rule 26(a)(2)(B)(iv) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Subject to this objection, see the expert witness’s CV, attached to the Rule 26 expert report.

**Document Request No. 12:** A complete list of all other cases in which You have testified as an expert or by deposition in the last four years.

**Response:** Plaintiffs refer Defendant to the expert witness’s Rule 26 report.

**Document Request No. 13:** Copies of any deposition testimony relating to this case in Your possession.

**Response:** To the extent the witness has reviewed Ethicon deposition testimony, such deposition testimony is referenced in the expert’s report and the attachments thereto and are possessed by

the defendant. Plaintiffs refer Defendant to the deposition testimony listed in Exhibit A to the Rule 26 expert report.

**Document Request No. 14:** All Documents, including but not limited to graphics, testing, recordings, spreadsheets, databases, data in any other form, work papers, and notes, whether preliminary or final, prepared by or at Your direction reflecting facts, factual assessments or assumptions, beliefs, or medical information regarding Plaintiffs relating to Your opinions in this litigation.

**Response:** Plaintiffs object to this Request as being beyond the scope of discovery under F.R.C.P. 26. There is no requirement under the rules that an expert's notes generated in connection with involvement in the cases, whether hand-written or in electronic format, be produced.

**Document Request No. 15:** All Documents, including but not limited to graphics, testing, recordings, spreadsheets, databases, data in any other form, work papers, and notes, whether preliminary or final, prepared by or at Your direction reflecting facts, factual assessments or assumptions, or beliefs relating to any other pelvic mesh cases.

**Response:** Plaintiffs object to this request insofar as it this Request seeks data or other information relating to the mental impressions, conclusions, opinions, and legal theories of Plaintiffs' counsel. Such information, prepared in anticipation of litigation and not disclosed or otherwise maintained in a way that is inconsistent with the purpose of the privilege, is protected by the work product doctrine and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(3)(B). Finally, Plaintiffs' object to this request to the extent that it is over broad and seeks communications between the Plaintiffs' attorneys and this witness as such information is beyond that required by Rule 26(b)(4)(C).

**Document Request No. 16:** Any and all Documents relating to or reflecting any communication involving You and any of the Plaintiff's other experts, including but not limited to other experts' disclosures, reports, or deposition testimony that You have been provided.

**Response:** Plaintiffs object to this request upon the grounds that said request seeks discovery beyond that required to be produced by experts under Rule 26 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and seeks protected attorney-expert communications. Rule 26(b)(4)(C) specifically provides that Rules 26(b)(3)(A) and (B) protect communications between the party's attorney and any witness required to provide a report under Rule 26(a)(2)(B), regardless of the form of the communications, except to the extent that the communications (i) relate to compensation for the expert's study or testimony; (ii) identify facts or data that the party's attorney provided and that the expert considered in forming the opinions to be expressed; or (iii) identify assumptions that the party's attorney provided and that the expert relied on in forming the opinions to be expressed. Plaintiffs will not ask the expert to produce materials exempted from discovery by the foregoing rules.

**Document Request No. 17:** Any and all Documents, records, literature and data or information of any kind reviewed or considered by or made available to You, whether You did or did not rely on such Documents, records, literature and data or information.

**Response:** Plaintiffs object to this Request upon the grounds that said request seeks discovery beyond that required to be produced by experts under Rule 26 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and seeks protected attorney-expert communications. Rule 26(b)(4)(C) specifically provides that Rules 26(b)(3)(A) and (B) protect communications between the party's attorney and any witness required to provide a report under Rule 26(a)(2)(B), regardless of the form of the communications, except to the extent that the communications (i) relate to compensation for

the expert's study or testimony; (ii) identify facts or data that the party's attorney provided and that the expert considered in forming the opinions to be expressed; or (iii) identify assumptions that the party's attorney provided and that the expert relied on in forming the opinions to be expressed. Plaintiffs will not ask the expert to produce materials exempted from discovery by the foregoing rules.

Plaintiffs further object to said request as seeking information outside the scope of discovery authorized under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, which rules do not require such production by an expert.

Plaintiffs object to any such request insofar as it would require the witness to produce any other material or to copy and produce any literature or other material the expert may have reviewed from published sources during his review and preparation of this matter, as such is outside the scope of discovery required to be produced by or relating to expert witnesses under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

The witness will not be asked to produce "[a]ny and all Documents, records, literature and data or information of any kind reviewed or considered by or made available to You" as said request is so broad, over-inclusive and overbearing that it would require the witness to go back in time to the very beginning of his training and attempt to resurrect and produce all materials that he might have at any time and for any purpose reviewed. Such request is so over-burdensome as to be harassing and beyond any reasonable request authorized by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Furthermore, the witness has used training and expertise in formulating opinions in this case, and it is unreasonable to require production of all background studies and experience. Defendants' request goes far beyond the discovery required to be produced by experts. The discovery request would in effect require the expert to reproduce all training and entire research over the years



relating to the subject matter of mesh, and all interactions with other professionals and scientists on the subject matter. Rule 26 is not intended to place such burdens upon the witness. Rule 26 is not intended to dampen the access of parties to experts or to silence the experts by placing such onerous burdens upon them that they shy away from becoming involved in the litigation process. To the extent the witness has reviewed Ethicon internal documents, such are referenced in the expert's report and are possessed by the defendant.

**Document Request No. 18:** All literature, published or unpublished, consulted by You in connection with Your opinions in this litigation, including all literature that supports or fails to support Your opinions.

**Response:** Plaintiffs object to this Request on the grounds that it is vague and overly broad. Plaintiffs further object to this request to the extent that it is over broad and seeks communications between the Plaintiffs' attorneys and this witness as such information is beyond that required by Rule 26(b)(4)(C). Plaintiffs refer Defendants to the witness's Rule 26 Report and attachments.

**Document Request No. 19:** All depositions, pleadings, court opinions, or other records that were summarized for You or otherwise made available for Your review in connection with Your expected testimony in this litigation or in any pelvic mesh case.

**Response:** Plaintiffs object to this request on the grounds that it is vague and overly broad. In addition, this Request seeks data or other information relating to the mental impressions, conclusions, opinions, and legal theories of Plaintiffs' counsel. Such information, prepared in anticipation of litigation and not disclosed or otherwise maintained in a way that is inconsistent with the purpose of the privilege, is protected by the work product doctrine and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(3)(B). Finally, Plaintiffs' object to this request to the extent that it is over

broad and seeks communications between the Plaintiffs' attorneys and this witness as such information is beyond that required by Rule 26(b)(4)(C).

**Document Request No. 20:** All graphics or charts prepared by You or at Your direction for use at deposition and/or trial in this case.

**Response:** Plaintiffs object to this request on the grounds that it is vague and overly broad.

**Document Request No. 21:** Any Ethicon products in Your possession or Ethicon products belonging to You that You have placed in the possession of others.

**Response:** Plaintiffs object to this Request on the grounds that it is vague and overly broad. Plaintiffs also object to this request as being beyond the scope of F.R.C.P. 26.

**Document Request No. 22:** All communications from or to You relating to any professional society with respect to pelvic mesh, pelvic mesh products, pelvic organ prolapse, stress urinary incontinence, position statements, studies, editorials, and/or publications.

**Response:** Plaintiffs object to this Request on the grounds that it is vague and overly broad.

**Document Request No. 23:** Copies of any letters, brochures, promotions, websites, or other Documents in which You advertise or discuss Your work or availability as an expert or consultant in litigation.

**Response:** Plaintiffs object to this Request on the grounds that it is vague and overly broad.

**Document Request No. 24:** Copies of the syllabus and texts used in any classes taught by You in the past five years.

**Response:** Plaintiffs object to this Request on the grounds that it is vague and overly broad. Plaintiffs also object to this request as being beyond the scope of F.R.C.P. 26.

**Document Request No. 25:** All transcripts of prior testimony, statements or presentations given by You in any proceeding before the Food and Drug Administration, the Drug Enforcement

Agency, the United States House of Representatives, Wall Street, Financial Analysis, national Pharmaceutical Association Meetings, and on local or national television.

**Response:** Plaintiffs object to this Request on the grounds that it is vague and overly broad.

Plaintiffs further object that it seeks substantial documents and information unrelated to this lawsuit, including the products and any claims involved in this lawsuit.

**Document Request No. 26:** A copy of Your complete file in this litigation.

**Response:** Plaintiffs object to this Request on the grounds that it is vague and overly broad. In addition, this Request seeks data or other information relating to the mental impressions, conclusions, opinions, and legal theories of Plaintiffs' counsel. Such information, prepared in anticipation of litigation and not disclosed or otherwise maintained in a way that is inconsistent with the purpose of the privilege, is protected by the work product doctrine and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(3)(B). Finally, Plaintiffs' object to this request to the extent that it is over broad and seeks communications between the Plaintiffs' attorneys and this witness as such information is beyond that required by Rule 26(b)(4)(C). Plaintiffs object to this Request on the grounds that it is vague and overly broad. Plaintiffs also object to this request as being beyond the scope of F.R.C.P. 26.

**Document Request No. 27:** Any communications between You and counsel for the Plaintiff, to the extent that such communications:

- a. Relate to Your compensation;
- b. Identify facts or data that You were provided and that You considered in forming Your opinions; or
- c. Identify assumptions that Plaintiff's counsel provided You and that You relied on in forming Your opinions.

**Response:** Plaintiffs object to this Request on the grounds that it is vague and overly broad. In addition, this Request seeks data or other information relating to the mental impressions, conclusions, opinions, and legal theories of Plaintiffs' counsel. Such information, prepared in anticipation of litigation and not disclosed or otherwise maintained in a way that is inconsistent with the purpose of the privilege, is protected by the work product doctrine and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(3)(B). Finally, Plaintiffs' object to this request to the extent that it is over broad and seeks communications between the Plaintiffs' attorneys and this witness as such information is beyond that required by Rule 26(b)(4)(C). Plaintiffs also object to this request as being beyond the scope of F.R.C.P. 26.

Dated: August 15, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Edward A. Wallace  
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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on August 15, 2017, I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of the court using CM/ECF system which will send notification of such filing to the CM/ECF participants registered to receive service in this MDL.

/s/ Edward A. Wallace